



102 Four Rod Road

1755

Rev. Benoni Upson (-1826) a Yale graduate in 1776, served as Kensington Congregational Church, 3rd minister from 1779-1926 & Livia Hopkins (1755-1835)

saltbox

1934 WPA Census of Old Buildings in Connecticut Survey at the Connecticut State Library Digital Collection. Slide # 052

1780 Rev. Benoni Upson 136 Four Rod Road faces north present owner: Kozuck Estate

Wood house, peak roof, central brick chimney, two stories and a half, five window front, overhang, field stone foundation, some old flooring, raised 18th century paneling inn two front rooms, height of rooms is about seven, cupboard in NE room and three fireplaces with 19th century mantels.



Connecticut State Library, State Archives
WPA Architectural Survey: wpa_archsurvey_ber052

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

About 1780. Rev. Benoni Upson. Current owner; Kozuch Est.

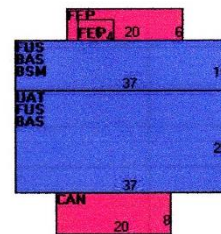
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey 045

18th century vernacular. Current owner: James, Donald, Anthony Hrenko

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

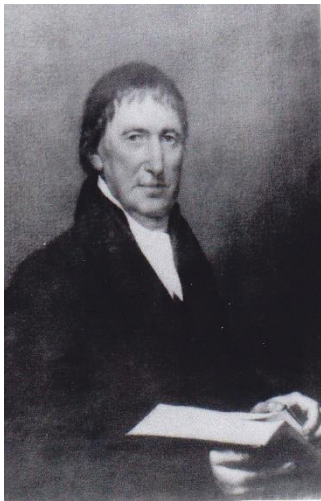
Sketch

1755 current owner: James & Pamela Hrenko



300 Years of Faith: Kensington Congregational Church

There was no minister in the years 1775-1779, until Rev. Dr. Benoni Upson was ordained on April 21, 1779. He was born in Waterbury and lived with an uncle in Newport, RI for several years. He was a Yale graduate in 1776. He married Livia Hopkins (1755-) in 1778. She was a 2nd cousin. He came to Kensington Congregational Church on April 26, 1779. He was the 3rd minister for the church. Dr. Upson was known as a peacemaker, a sensitive man, and for just thinking and right acting. He loved the young and visited the schools often. He was seen as prudent and hospitable. He earned his Doctor of Divinity in 1817. Rev. Dr. Upson served as pastor for 47 years. On June 16, 1816, due to the poor health of Rev. Dr. Upson, Rev. Royal Robbins was called as a Colleague Pastor. Rev. Dr. Upson died on November 13, 1826, at age 77 and in the 48th year of his ministry.



Rev. Upson



Rev. Upson's home on the corner of Four Rod Road and Cashman Place.

Rev. Benoni Upson (1750-1826) son of Thomas Upson & Hannah Hopkins of Wolcott, CT. In 1778 he married Livia Hopkins (1755-1835) daughter of Joseph & Hepzibah Hopkins. They had children: Gustavus, Laura, Henry, ivia, Laura, Sophia, Sarah, & William. They are buried in Ledge Cemetery.

Rev. Upson's grave in the Ledge Cemetery on Cashman Place.

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM:	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR. SPECIFY
☐ S ☐ NR	☐ Actual ☐ Potential

#045

IDENTIFICATION	
1. BUILDING NAME (Common) _____ (Historic) _____	
2. TOWN/CITY Berlin	VILLAGE _____ COUNTY Hartford
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 102 Four Rod Road 9-3/89/2	
4. OWNER(S) James J., 32 Cashman Place Hrenko, Donald A. & Anthony Kensington 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private	
5. USE (Present) _____ (Historic) _____ Residence Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: ☒ Yes ☐ No EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☐ Yes ☒ No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No IF YES, EXPLAIN _____	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING 18th century Vernacular DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1780 (?)	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate) ☐ Clapboard ☒ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☒ Fieldstone ☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone Brownstone foundation (uncoursed) ☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: _____ ☐ Cut stone Type: _____	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM ☐ Wood frame ☒ Post and beam ☐ balloon ☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel ☐ Other (Specify) _____	
10. ROOF (Type) ☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth ☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify) _____ (Material) ☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street ☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☒ Ridge parallel to the street	
11. NUMBER OF STORIES 2 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 37' x 30'	
12. CONDITION (Structural) _____ (Exterior) _____ ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Deteriorated	
13. INTEGRITY (Location) _____ WHEN? _____ (Alterations) _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN _____ ☒ Or. original site ☐ Moved ☒ Yes ☐ No Siding	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES ☒ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____ ☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden	
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT ☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☒ Scattered buildings visible from site ☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☐ High building density	
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS Just north of Cashman Place, in an area with a scattering of 18th-century houses.	

INVED

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER HRC		DATE 11/84
	VIEW W	NEGATIVE ON FILE H9	
COMPILED	NAME Historic Resource Consultants The Colt Armory		DATE 12/84
	ORGANIZATION 55 Van Dyke Avenue		
	ADDRESS Hartford, Connecticut 06108		



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

This house has a three-bay facade with a central entry protected by a 20th-century porch. Windows are fitted with 2-over-2 sash; second-floor windows are located high under the eaves. There is a hewn overhang at the second story and at the gable ends. The molded main roof cornice is of recent origin. To the rear is a full-width, shed-roofed dormer of 20th-century origin.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Even though virtually all of the visible exterior fabric is of later origin, this house is significant as a good example of a simple 18th-century central chimney house. It has the three-bay facade configuration typical of early or modest examples; the great bulk of 18th-century houses extant in Berlin have five-bay facades (created by adding a second window to each front room). Other typical 18th-century features include the central-chimney plan, the hewn overhangs, and the location of the second-floor windows high under the eaves.

Little could be discovered about the early history of the house.

SOURCES

THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

☒ None known	☐ Highways	☐ Vandalism	☐ Developers	☐ Other
☐ Renewal	☐ Private	☐ Deterioration	☐ Zoning	☐ Explanation